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that Senator Wehrbein had the idea to come up with some funds from another source that we can fund this, because we know the money is very tight this year. But I'd just urge you to support this amendment, and also the Wehrbein amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, let me say first of all that I do not have an objection to encouraging, obviously, unification, or this particular process, or those who have gone on to work through this process. And, as such, I don't have an objection to switching money from the Hardship Fund to this fund for that purpose. Having said that, however, I'm troubled by the process that we're using here. Essentially, we're putting a couple million dollars more of General Fund monies into this particular process. And there are two different things that I think are a little disturbing. One is that this money suddenly appears at this point in time in our process. A lot of us in the Legislature, both with regard to appropriations and with regard to A bills, have had things vetoed, and we have had those things vetoed because there was not enough General Fund money there. And the Governor didn't have before him an apparent additional \$2 million of General Fund money that might have been considered in the competition of all of the A bills and all of the appropriation bills. So here we are, kind of after the fact, favoring this particular bill, for which there is otherwise no money, and which was not prioritized by the Education Committee or anyone else, above the other bills that have been advanced to the Governor. So I'm wondering whether this is really a very fair process, to, on the last day, on a bill on Final Reading, to have discovered \$2 million of General Fund money that the Governor, that this body, that others may or may not have chose to spend in a different way, but suddenly it's there and it's there for only one bill, and it's going to be spent for that bill. It could have been discovered for the homestead exemption, for example. It could have been discovered for a lot of other things that we've argued for this session. But, by the nature of how it's coming up, it's taken out of all that competition and extended to this particular goal. So I guess I need to think about that a little bit. But I think we all need to think about that a little bit, because I think in the proper context of things, it